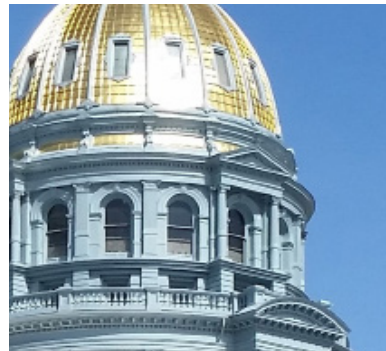


2019

Report to the Colorado General Assembly



School Safety Committee



Prepared by Legislative Council Staff
Research Publication No. 727
December 2019

School Safety Committee

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December 2019

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December 2019

To Members of the Seventy-second General Assembly:

Submitted herewith is the final report of the School Safety Committee. This committee was created by a resolution adopted by the Executive Committee of the Legislative Council during the 2019 legislative interim, pursuant to Section 2-3-304 (3) (c), C.R.S. The purpose of this committee is to study how violence at, and threats of violence to, schools can be prevented, and how to promote the safety of school personnel, students, and others who are present at schools.

At its meeting on November 15, 2019, the Legislative Council reviewed the report of this committee. A motion to forward this report and the bills and resolution therein for consideration in the 2020 session was approved.

Sincerely,

/s/ Senator Leroy Garcia
Chair

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The text of each bill is included as Attachments A through F after the resource materials page(s).

This report is also available online at:

<http://leg.colorado.gov/committees/school-safety-committee/2019-regular-session>

Committee Charge

The School Safety Committee was created pursuant to a resolution adopted by the Executive Committee of the Legislative Council during the 2019 legislative interim, pursuant to Section 2-3-304 (3) (c), C.R.S.

Specifically, the committee was required to:

- review existing statutes relating to school safety, emergency response planning, and the prevention of threats to the safety of students, teachers, administrators, employees, and volunteers who are present on the grounds of each public and private school in the state; and
- study and evaluate programs and methods for identifying and monitoring students in crisis.

Committee Activities

The committee held four meetings during the 2019 interim. A variety of groups briefed the committee on topics related to school safety, including existing law, programs, and departments currently addressing school safety and school security; mental health services for juveniles; the Safe2Tell program; and education and advocacy efforts. The committee also created an online tool to allow members of the public to comment on school safety.

The following sections discuss the committee's activities during the 2019 interim.

Existing School Safety-Related Laws and Programs

Existing school-safety related laws. Legislative Council Staff presented to the committee about existing Colorado law on school safety and how the law has changed since the Columbine High School incident in 1999. Specifically, staff addressed existing state laws regarding:

- school safety and emergency response;
- reporting on school-based incidents;
- school safety resources;
- the Claire Davis School Safety Act, which imposes a partial waiver of sovereign immunity for schools that experience incidents of violence;
- at-risk youth and mental health treatment for youth; and
- federal student privacy and confidentiality laws, including the federal Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act (FERPA).

Staff also discussed the issue of relative safety in schools and touched on rates of gun violence and accidental firearms deaths among youth in Colorado. The committee also heard how other states have addressed mental health in the context of school safety.

Programs addressing school safety. Representatives of the School Safety Resource Center in the Department of Public Safety (DPS), the Mental Health Promotion Branch in the Department of Public Health and Environment (DPHE), the Department of Education (CDE), and the Office of Behavioral Health in the Department of Human Service (DHS) spoke about existing programs in the state that

address issues related to school safety. Representatives of several state departments also discussed funding for school safety programs, and responded to specific questions from the committee regarding coordination among state school safety initiatives, challenges in implementing and scaling successful school safety initiatives, and how to promote communication between state and local agencies and schools regarding school safety.

School district perspective. Personnel from schools and school districts addressed the committee on a number of topics, including the security of schools, drills and training for students and teachers, mental health supports for students, the implementation of the Claire Davis Act, and other issues. Representatives from school districts throughout the state addressed committee questions with regards to increasing school safety, funding for school safety initiatives, and providing state support to schools to increase school security.

2019 School Safety Performance Audit. The committee also heard a presentation from the Office of the State Auditor on the September 2019 School Safety Performance Audit. The audit provided information on current school safety initiatives and state funding for school safety programs. The audit found that Colorado’s school safety programs are not centralized and are not required to work together, although there is some coordination among agencies and programs. The audit further found that the existing patchwork of programs creates a risk of uncoordinated efforts, gaps in services, and challenges in determining reach and impact.

Committee recommendations. As a result of its discussions regarding existing state laws and programs on school safety and how to further coordinate school safety efforts, the committee recommends Bill E, which creates the Colorado Interagency Working Group on School Safety in the Colorado Department of Education. The working group is required to study the School Safety audit recommendations and other school safety-related topics. Elements of other bills requested but not approved by the committee were incorporated into Bill E, including a bill to extend the School Safety Committee and a bill to require certain state departments to work with a consultant to examine issues regarding school safety.

The committee requested, but did not approve, legislation to make changes to the School Security Disbursement Program, which provides funding to local education providers to improve security in schools. The committee also considered, but did not approve, legislation to increase funding for the SAFER Grant Program in the Division of Homeland Security and Emergency Management in the DPS, which provides funding to schools and public safety communications networks for interoperable communication hardware, software, equipment maintenance, and training.

Behavioral Health Services for Juveniles

The committee heard presentations from the Colorado Children’s Campaign, DPHE, DHS, CDE, Mental Health Colorado, and others regarding the importance of mental health services for youth in schools. Presentations covered the spectrum of necessary mental health services for juveniles, including both preventative services that are available to a school population as a whole and preventative services targeted toward youth with identified risk factors, mental health treatment, and crisis reporting and response.

The committee heard presentations regarding school environments and the relative safety of students at school. Presenters discussed violence prevention strategies, including improving school climate, offering targeted behavioral health interventions, increasing mental health supports in schools, and improving the use of threat assessment tools.

The committee heard from several presenters, including students, teachers, and parents, regarding the increase in the rate of youth suicides in recent years. The committee discussed the number of behavioral health professionals and social workers in schools and recommended ratios of these professionals to students.

Committee recommendations. As a result of its discussions regarding behavioral supports for students, the committee recommended three bills. Bill A requires school district attendance policies to allow for excused absences for behavioral health concerns. Bill B convenes a working group to examine behavioral health treatment for children and youth with severe behavioral or mental health disorders. Bill C creates a behavioral health train-the-trainer program for employees of local education providers.

The committee requested, but did not approve, a bill to require the School Safety Resource Center to develop a public school safety climate survey.

Safe2Tell

The Safe2Tell program, which is housed in the Department of Law, provides students, parents, and community members a safe way to report information about any issues that concern their safety or the safety of others. Representatives from Safe2Tell briefed the committee about the program, including information about how it works and metrics for determining its success. The committee also heard testimony regarding false reports made to the program, and efforts to prevent misuse of the program. Finally, the committee discussed how to promote the program and ensure its coordination with other crisis response services.

Committee recommendations. Following the presentation, the committee requested Bill D, which enhances the Safe2Tell program in a number of ways. The bill requires Safe2Tell to devise a process to properly route crisis and non crisis calls and texts and to conduct an annual advertising campaign for the program. Further, the bill allows limited disclosure of information obtained through Safe2Tell to law enforcement in certain circumstances.

The committee requested, but did not approve, a bill to allow the issuance of a search order to obtain information regarding reports to Safe2Tell in certain criminal cases.

Education and Advocacy

Several groups that provide educational materials and opportunities surrounding school safety presented to the committee. Representatives from the University of Colorado Center for the Study and Prevention of Violence discussed various areas of study related to school safety, including the Safe Communities, Safe Schools model of violence prevention, threat assessment tools, and evidence-based tools to improve school safety.

The I Love U Guys Foundation, started by the parents of a victim of school violence, offers programs, at no cost, to schools, districts, departments, agencies, and organizations. In particular, the foundation developed the Standard Response Protocol, which outlines consistent and shared language and actions among all students, staff, and first responders in emergency situations, and the Standard Reunification Method, a process to successfully reunite parents and students after a school safety incident.

Committee recommendation. The committee requested Resolution A, which expresses support for the work of the I Love U Guys Foundation.

Public Input Process

In order to allow members of the public to provide input, the committee established a public comment form available on the General Assembly's website. Committee staff compiled, categorized, and summarized all of the comments received and provided a general overview memorandum as well as the original comments to the committee. The form was active from July 10, 2019, to October 30, 2019. In that time, the committee received 314 comments with the majority of comments touching on three main areas: firearms, mental health, and school resource officers/security personnel.

Summary of Recommendations

As a result of the committee's activities, the committee recommended five bills and one resolution to the Legislative Council for consideration in the 2020 session. At its meeting on November 15, 2019, the Legislative Council approved the recommended bills and resolution for introduction. The approved bills and resolution are described below.

Bill A — Excused Absences in Public School for Behavioral Health

Bill A requires school district attendance policies to allow for excused absences for behavioral health concerns.

Bill B — Need for Juvenile Behavioral Health Treatment

Bill B requires the School Safety Resource Center in the Department of Public Safety to convene a working group to examine the needs of school districts regarding the availability of behavioral health treatment for children and youth with severe behavioral or mental health disorders.

Bill C — Expand Behavioral Health Training for K-12 Educators

Bill C requires the Colorado Department of Education to offer a train-the-trainer program to employees of school districts, charter schools, or boards of cooperative services. The program must be designed to improve overall school climate, promote youth behavioral and mental health, and prepare an attendee to teach a youth behavioral and mental health training course to other school employees.

Bill D — Enhance Safe2Tell

Bill D requires the Safe2Tell program to devise a process so that all calls and texts are received initially by a crisis operator and non-crisis calls and texts are routed appropriately. Further, the program must align the process and procedures for all tips, regardless of communication method, and conduct an annual advertising campaign regarding awareness, use, and misuse of Safe2Tell. The bill allows the Attorney General to, upon request of a law enforcement agency, disclose to law enforcement personnel information obtained through Safe2Tell if the Attorney General reasonably believes the disclosure is necessary to prevent imminent physical harm or serious bodily injury.

Bill E — Colorado Working Group on School Safety

Bill E creates the Colorado Interagency Working Group on School Safety in the Colorado Department of Education. The working group is tasked with increasing coordination of school safety programs across state government, and includes representatives from state departments, school districts, law enforcement, and the legislature. The bill identifies topics of study for the working group, including school safety best practices and standards, the use of lockdown drills, risk assessments and training,

vendors and tools, standardization regarding investigation of threats to schools, the state auditor's 2019 report regarding school safety, and other issues.

Resolution A — Support I Love U Guys Foundation

Resolution A expresses support for the I Love U Guys Foundation, which develops programs and initiatives to support school safety.

Resource Materials

Meeting summaries are prepared for each meeting of the committee and contain all handouts provided to the committee. The summaries of meetings and attachments are available at the Division of Archives, 1313 Sherman Street, Denver (303-866-2055). The listing below contains the dates of committee meetings and the topics discussed at those meetings. Meeting summaries are also available on our website at:

<http://leg.colorado.gov/committees/school-safety-committee/2019-regular-session>

Meeting Date and Topics Discussed

July 11, 2019

- ◆ Review of existing Colorado law on school safety and requested school safety-related research
- ◆ Briefing from programs and departments addressing school safety in Colorado
- ◆ Presentations on defining the problem
- ◆ Presentations on school security
- ◆ Parents, students, and teachers panels
- ◆ Open committee conversation defining goals

August 20, 2019

- ◆ Review of committee questions from prior meeting and schedule overview
- ◆ Discussion about creating consistency in school safety across state departments
- ◆ Discussion about implementing school safety protocols
- ◆ Presentations on violence prevention and mental health services
- ◆ Community policy conversations
- ◆ Presentations on Safe2Tell
- ◆ Parents, students, and teachers panels

September 20, 2019

- ◆ Presentation of state audit on school safety
- ◆ Presentation by the University of Colorado Center for the Study and Prevention of Violence
- ◆ Discussion of strategies for improving school safety
- ◆ Presentation by Everytown for Gun Safety
- ◆ Presentation by the I Love U Guys Foundation

- ◆ Parents, students, and teachers panels
- ◆ Requests for interim committee legislation

October 31, 2019

- ◆ Discussion about and Approval of Draft Legislation

Second Regular Session
Seventy-second General Assembly
STATE OF COLORADO

DRAFT
10.10.19

BILL 2

LLS NO. 20-0388.01 Shelby Ross x4510

INTERIM COMMITTEE BILL

School Safety Committee

BILL TOPIC: "Excused Absences In Public Sch For Behavioral Hlth"

A BILL FOR AN ACT

101 **CONCERNING EXCUSED ABSENCES IN PUBLIC SCHOOLS RESULTING**
102 **FROM BEHAVIORAL HEALTH CONCERNS.**

Bill Summary

(Note: This summary applies to this bill as introduced and does not reflect any amendments that may be subsequently adopted. If this bill passes third reading in the house of introduction, a bill summary that applies to the reengrossed version of this bill will be available at <http://leg.colorado.gov/>.)

School Safety Committee. Current law requires school districts to adopt a written policy setting forth the school district's attendance requirements. The bill requires the policy to include excused absences for behavioral health concerns.

*Capital letters or bold & italic numbers indicate new material to be added to existing statute.
Dashes through the words indicate deletions from existing statute.*

1 *Be it enacted by the General Assembly of the State of Colorado:*

2 **SECTION 1.** In Colorado Revised Statutes, 22-33-104, **amend**
3 (2)(c) and (4)(a) as follows:

4 **22-33-104. Compulsory school attendance.** (2) The provisions
5 of subsection (1) of this section shall not apply to a child:

6 (c) Who is absent for an extended period due to ~~physical, mental,~~
7 ~~or emotional disability~~ A PHYSICAL DISABILITY OR A MENTAL OR
8 BEHAVIORAL HEALTH DISORDER;

9 (4) (a) The board of education shall adopt a written policy setting
10 forth the district's attendance requirements. ~~Said~~ THE policy ~~shall~~ MUST
11 provide for excused absences, including those listed as exclusions from
12 compulsory school attendance in accordance with subsection (2) of this
13 section, AS WELL AS TEMPORARY ABSENCES DUE TO BEHAVIORAL HEALTH
14 CONCERNS. An attendance policy developed pursuant to this section may
15 include appropriate penalties for nonattendance due to unexcused
16 absence.

17 **SECTION 2. Safety clause.** The general assembly hereby finds,
18 determines, and declares that this act is necessary for the immediate
19 preservation of the public peace, health, or safety.

Second Regular Session
Seventy-second General Assembly
STATE OF COLORADO

DRAFT
10.11.19

BILL 4

LLS NO. 20-0390.01 Jane Ritter x4342

INTERIM COMMITTEE BILL

School Safety Committee

BILL TOPIC: "Need For Juvenile Residential Treatment"

A BILL FOR AN ACT

101 **CONCERNING THE ADEQUACY OF MENTAL HEALTH RESIDENTIAL**
102 **TREATMENT SERVICES FOR JUVENILES IN THE CONTEXT OF**
103 **SCHOOL SAFETY.**

Bill Summary

(Note: This summary applies to this bill as introduced and does not reflect any amendments that may be subsequently adopted. If this bill passes third reading in the house of introduction, a bill summary that applies to the reengrossed version of this bill will be available at <http://leg.colorado.gov/>.)

School Safety Committee. The bill instructs the school safety resource center (center) to convene a working group of necessary and interested stakeholders to assess the needs of school districts with respect to the adequacy and availability of residential mental health treatment for children and youth who have been identified by school personnel as

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Dashes through the words indicate deletions from existing statute.*

having severe behavioral or mental health disorders and potential ways to resolve such needs. The working group is directed to gather information on the availability, need, and cost associated with residential treatment services for children and youth in Colorado. The center shall use the data to prepare a report and make any legislative recommendations to address the mental health needs of children and youth in Colorado.

The center is required to present the report and any legislative recommendations as part of its presentation to its committee of reference at a hearing held pursuant to the "State Measurement for Accountable, Responsive, and Transparent (SMART) Government Act" in January 2021.

1 *Be it enacted by the General Assembly of the State of Colorado:*

2 **SECTION 1.** In Colorado Revised Statutes, 24-33.5-1803,
3 **amend** (3)(m); and **add** (3)(o) as follows:

4 **24-33.5-1803. School safety resource center - created - duties**
5 **- report.** (3) The center has the following duties:

6 (m) By June 1, 2018, to make available a model program that
7 conforms with section 22-1-128, regarding the risks and consequences of
8 sexting for school districts to use, which curriculum must include
9 information informing students of the provisions of section 18-7-109,
10 including that, if a student receives a sexually explicit image in violation
11 of section 18-7-109, the student can avoid adjudication as a juvenile
12 delinquent by taking reasonable steps to either destroy or delete or report
13 the initial viewing of the image within seventy-two hours after receiving
14 the image; ~~and~~

15 (o) (I) TO CONVENE, ON OR BEFORE AUGUST 1, 2020, A WORKING
16 GROUP OF INTERESTED AND NECESSARY STAKEHOLDERS TO ADDRESS THE
17 NEEDS OF SCHOOL DISTRICTS WITH RESPECT TO THE ADEQUACY AND
18 AVAILABILITY OF RESIDENTIAL MENTAL HEALTH TREATMENT FOR
19 CHILDREN AND YOUTH WHO HAVE BEEN IDENTIFIED BY SCHOOL

1 PERSONNEL AS HAVING SEVERE BEHAVIORAL OR MENTAL HEALTH
2 DISORDERS AND POTENTIAL WAYS TO RESOLVE SUCH NEEDS. THE
3 WORKING GROUP MUST INCLUDE, AT A MINIMUM, REPRESENTATIVES FROM
4 THE DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION, LOCAL SCHOOL DISTRICTS THROUGHOUT
5 THE STATE, THE DEPARTMENT OF HUMAN SERVICES, COUNTY
6 DEPARTMENTS OF HUMAN OR SOCIAL SERVICES, MEDICAL PROVIDERS, AND
7 RESIDENTIAL TREATMENT PROVIDERS.

8 (II) THE WORKING GROUP SHALL MEET AS MANY TIMES AS
9 NECESSARY TO ADDRESS THE ISSUES AND PREPARE THE REPORT REQUIRED
10 PURSUANT TO SUBSECTION (3)(o)(III) OF THIS SECTION. THE WORKING
11 GROUP SHALL UTILIZE ANY RELEVANT INFORMATION, INCLUDING THE
12 INFORMATION REPORTED TO THE DEPARTMENT OF HUMAN SERVICES
13 PURSUANT TO SECTION 27-67-105. THE ISSUES ADDRESSED BY THE
14 WORKING GROUP MUST INCLUDE, AT A MINIMUM:

15 (A) THE NUMBER OF CHILDREN AND YOUTH FOR WHOM THE STATE
16 PROVIDED RESIDENTIAL TREATMENT SERVICES FROM JULY 1, 2018,
17 THROUGH JUNE 30, 2020;

18 (B) THE NUMBER OF CHILDREN AND YOUTH IN COLORADO WHO
19 WERE IN NEED OF RESIDENTIAL TREATMENT SERVICES BUT FOR WHOM
20 BEDS WERE UNAVAILABLE FROM JULY 1, 2018, THROUGH JUNE 30, 2020;

21 (C) THE COST ASSOCIATED WITH PROVIDING THE ADDITIONAL
22 RESIDENTIAL TREATMENT BEDS TO MEET THE UNMET NEED FROM JULY 1,
23 2018, THROUGH JUNE 30, 2020;

24 (D) OPTIONS AVAILABLE OR POTENTIALLY AVAILABLE TO ASSIST
25 SCHOOLS IN HANDLING CHILDREN AND YOUTH WHO HAVE BEEN IDENTIFIED
26 BY SCHOOL PERSONNEL AS HAVING SEVERE BEHAVIORAL OR MENTAL
27 HEALTH DISORDERS; AND

1 (E) A PLAN FOR IDENTIFYING, SECURING, AND MAKING FULLY
2 OPERATIONAL ADDITIONAL RESIDENTIAL TREATMENT BEDS NO LATER
3 THAN SEPTEMBER 1, 2021.

4 (III) THE CENTER SHALL PRESENT A REPORT ON THE ISSUES
5 DESCRIBED IN SUBSECTION (3)(o)(II) OF THIS SECTION, AS WELL AS ANY
6 RECOMMENDATIONS FOR LEGISLATION CONCERNING MENTAL HEALTH
7 NEEDS FOR CHILDREN AND YOUTH, AS PART OF THE DEPARTMENT'S
8 PRESENTATION TO ITS COMMITTEE OF REFERENCE AT A HEARING HELD
9 PURSUANT TO SECTION 2-7-203 (2)(a) OF THE "STATE MEASUREMENT FOR
10 ACCOUNTABLE, RESPONSIVE, AND TRANSPARENT (SMART)
11 GOVERNMENT ACT" IN JANUARY 2021.

12 **SECTION 2. Safety clause.** The general assembly hereby finds,
13 determines, and declares that this act is necessary for the immediate
14 preservation of the public peace, health, or safety.

Second Regular Session
Seventy-second General Assembly
STATE OF COLORADO

DRAFT
10.11.19

BILL 7

LLS NO. 20-0393.02 Conrad Imel x2313

INTERIM COMMITTEE BILL

School Safety Committee

BILL TOPIC: "Expand Behavioral Hlth Training For K-12 Educators"

A BILL FOR AN ACT

101 CONCERNING EXPANDING BEHAVIORAL HEALTH TRAINING FOR
102 KINDERGARTEN THROUGH TWELFTH GRADE EDUCATORS.

Bill Summary

(Note: This summary applies to this bill as introduced and does not reflect any amendments that may be subsequently adopted. If this bill passes third reading in the house of introduction, a bill summary that applies to the reengrossed version of this bill will be available at <http://leg.colorado.gov/>.)

School Safety Committee. The bill requires the department of education (department) to offer a train the trainer program (program) designed to improve school culture, promote youth behavioral and mental health, and prepare attendees to teach a youth behavioral and mental health training course. The department must make the program available to employees of a school district, charter school, or board of cooperative

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Dashes through the words indicate deletions from existing statute.*

services (local education provider). A local education provider and its employees are not required to participate in the program. The department may enter into an agreement with an organization to provide the program. The department is required to annually evaluate the effectiveness of the program.

The program must include evidence-based instruction on, and prepare an attendee to teach a youth behavioral and mental health training course that includes, any of the following subjects:

- Using trauma-informed approaches to improve overall school climate and culture;
- Identifying behavioral and mental health challenges and substance use disorders;
- Restorative practices for addressing youth behavioral and mental health challenges;
- Improving youth social and emotional health;
- Suicide prevention;
- Bullying prevention and intervention strategies;
- Encouraging positive bystander behavior;
- Best practices for providing assistance in noncrisis situations;
- De-escalation of crisis situations; or
- Identifying and accessing available behavioral and mental health resources and substance use disorder support services and treatment.

1 *Be it enacted by the General Assembly of the State of Colorado:*

2 **SECTION 1.** In Colorado Revised Statutes, **add** 22-2-146 as
3 follows:

4 **22-2-146. Department of education - youth behavioral and**
5 **mental health train the trainer program - definitions.** (1) AS USED IN
6 THIS SECTION, UNLESS THE CONTEXT OTHERWISE REQUIRES:

7 (a) "ATTENDEE" MEANS AN EMPLOYEE OF A LOCAL EDUCATION
8 PROVIDER WHO ATTENDS A TRAIN THE TRAINER PROGRAM.

9 (b) "LOCAL EDUCATION PROVIDER" MEANS A SCHOOL DISTRICT, A
10 CHARTER SCHOOL AUTHORIZED BY A SCHOOL DISTRICT PURSUANT TO PART
11 1 OF ARTICLE 30.5 OF THIS TITLE 22, A CHARTER SCHOOL AUTHORIZED BY

1 THE STATE CHARTER SCHOOL INSTITUTE PURSUANT TO PART 5 OF ARTICLE
2 30.5 OF THIS TITLE 22, OR A BOARD OF COOPERATIVE SERVICES CREATED
3 AND OPERATING PURSUANT TO ARTICLE 5 OF THIS TITLE 22 THAT
4 OPERATES ONE OR MORE PUBLIC SCHOOLS.

5 (c) "TRAIN THE TRAINER PROGRAM" MEANS THE PROGRAM
6 DESCRIBED IN SUBSECTION (2) OF THIS SECTION THAT IS OFFERED BY THE
7 DEPARTMENT.

8 (2) (a) THE DEPARTMENT SHALL OFFER A TRAIN THE TRAINER
9 PROGRAM FOR EMPLOYEES OF A LOCAL EDUCATION PROVIDER, INCLUDING
10 EMPLOYEES WHO HOLD A SUBSTITUTE AUTHORIZATION. THE TRAIN THE
11 TRAINER PROGRAM MUST BE DESIGNED TO IMPROVE OVERALL SCHOOL
12 CLIMATE, PROMOTE YOUTH BEHAVIORAL AND MENTAL HEALTH, AND
13 PREPARE AN ATTENDEE TO TEACH A YOUTH BEHAVIORAL AND MENTAL
14 HEALTH TRAINING COURSE THAT CONTAINS ANY OF THE SUBJECTS, OR A
15 COMBINATION OF THE SUBJECTS, DESCRIBED IN SUBSECTION (3) OF THIS
16 SECTION.

17 (b) THE DEPARTMENT SHALL NOT REQUIRE ANY LOCAL EDUCATION
18 PROVIDER TO PARTICIPATE IN OR COMPLETE THE TRAIN THE TRAINER
19 PROGRAM.

20 (c) A LOCAL EDUCATION PROVIDER SHALL NOT REQUIRE ANY
21 EMPLOYEE TO PARTICIPATE IN OR COMPLETE THE TRAIN THE TRAINER
22 PROGRAM.

23 (3) THE TRAIN THE TRAINER PROGRAM MUST PROVIDE
24 EVIDENCE-BASED INSTRUCTION ON, AND PREPARE AN ATTENDEE TO TEACH
25 A YOUTH BEHAVIORAL AND MENTAL HEALTH TRAINING COURSE THAT
26 INCLUDES, ANY OF THE FOLLOWING SUBJECTS:

27 (a) USING TRAUMA-INFORMED APPROACHES TO IMPROVE OVERALL

1 SCHOOL CLIMATE AND CULTURE;

2 (b) IDENTIFYING SIGNS OF BEHAVIORAL AND MENTAL HEALTH
3 CHALLENGES AND SUBSTANCE USE DISORDERS THAT MAY BE EXPERIENCED
4 BY STUDENTS ENROLLED IN A LOCAL EDUCATION PROVIDER;

5 (c) RESTORATIVE PRACTICES FOR ADDRESSING YOUTH
6 BEHAVIORAL AND MENTAL HEALTH CHALLENGES;

7 (d) IMPROVING YOUTH SOCIAL AND EMOTIONAL HEALTH AND
8 FOSTERING A POSITIVE SCHOOL CLIMATE;

9 (e) SUICIDE PREVENTION, INCLUDING IDENTIFYING YOUTH
10 SUICIDAL IDEATION;

11 (f) EVIDENCE-BASED BULLYING PREVENTION AND INTERVENTION
12 STRATEGIES;

13 (g) ENCOURAGING POSITIVE BYSTANDER BEHAVIOR, INCLUDING
14 RECOGNIZING POTENTIALLY HARMFUL SITUATIONS, SUCH AS BULLYING,
15 HARASSMENT, INTIMIDATION, OR THREATENING BEHAVIOR, AND TAKING
16 APPROPRIATE ACTION AS A BYSTANDER;

17 (h) BEST PRACTICES TO PROVIDE ASSISTANCE TO STUDENTS IN
18 NONCRISIS SITUATIONS;

19 (i) SAFE DE-ESCALATION OF CRISIS SITUATIONS; OR

20 (j) IDENTIFYING AND ACCESSING AVAILABLE BEHAVIORAL AND
21 MENTAL HEALTH RESOURCES AND SUBSTANCE USE DISORDER SUPPORT
22 SERVICES AND TREATMENT APPROPRIATE FOR STUDENTS ENROLLED IN THE
23 LOCAL EDUCATION PROVIDER.

24 (4) THE DEPARTMENT MAY ENTER INTO AN AGREEMENT WITH AN
25 ORGANIZATION TO PROVIDE THE TRAIN THE TRAINER PROGRAM. THE
26 DEPARTMENT MAY ONLY ENTER INTO SUCH AN AGREEMENT WITH AN
27 ORGANIZATION THAT HAS EXPERIENCE PROVIDING EVIDENCE-BASED

1 YOUTH BEHAVIORAL AND MENTAL HEALTH TRAINING PROGRAMS AND
2 EDUCATING INSTRUCTORS USING A TRAIN THE TRAINER MODEL.

3 (5) (a) THE DEPARTMENT SHALL ANNUALLY EVALUATE THE
4 EFFECTIVENESS OF THE TRAIN THE TRAINER PROGRAM. THE EVALUATION
5 MUST SOLICIT FEEDBACK FROM ATTENDEES AND CONSIDER THE EFFECT OF
6 THE PROGRAM ON SCHOOL CLIMATE AND YOUTH BEHAVIORAL AND
7 MENTAL HEALTH.

8 (b) THE DEPARTMENT SHALL INCLUDE A SUMMARY OF THE
9 EVALUATION CONDUCTED PURSUANT TO THIS SUBSECTION (5) AND ANY
10 RECOMMENDATIONS CONCERNING THE TRAIN THE TRAINER PROGRAM IN
11 THE DEPARTMENT'S ANNUAL PRESENTATION TO THE COMMITTEES OF
12 REFERENCE PURSUANT TO SECTION 2-7-203.

13 **SECTION 2. Safety clause.** The general assembly hereby finds,
14 determines, and declares that this act is necessary for the immediate
15 preservation of the public peace, health, or safety.

Second Regular Session
Seventy-second General Assembly
STATE OF COLORADO

DRAFT
10.11.19

BILL 8

LLS NO. 20-0394.01 Michael Dohr x4347

INTERIM COMMITTEE BILL

School Safety Committee

BILL TOPIC: "Enhance Safe2tell"
DEADLINES: File by: 10/10/2019

A BILL FOR AN ACT

101 **CONCERNING ENHANCEMENTS TO THE SAFE2TELL PROGRAM.**

Bill Summary

(Note: This summary applies to this bill as introduced and does not reflect any amendments that may be subsequently adopted. If this bill passes third reading in the house of introduction, a bill summary that applies to the reengrossed version of this bill will be available at <http://leg.colorado.gov/>.)

School Safety Committee. Under current law, the safe2tell program is required to provide awareness and educational materials to preschools. The bill repeals this requirement.

The bill requires the safe2tell program to:

- Devise a process so that all calls and texts are received initially by a crisis operator and then non-crisis calls and texts are routed appropriately;
- Align the process and procedures for tips received via all

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Dashes through the words indicate deletions from existing statute.*

- communication methods; and
- Conduct an annual advertising campaign regarding awareness, use, and misuse of safe2tell.

The bill allows the attorney general to disclose to law enforcement personnel any materials or information obtained through the implementation or operation of the program if the attorney general reasonably deems such disclosure necessary for the prevention of imminent physical harm or serious bodily injury to one or more persons.

1 *Be it enacted by the General Assembly of the State of Colorado:*

2 **SECTION 1.** In Colorado Revised Statutes, 24-31-606, **amend**
3 (2)(g), (2)(k), (2)(l), and (2)(m); and **add** (2)(o), (2)(p), and (2)(q) as
4 follows:

5 **24-31-606. Safe2tell program - creation - duties.** (2) The
6 program must:

7 (g) Provide safe2tell awareness and ~~education~~ EDUCATIONAL
8 materials to all ~~preschool~~; elementary and secondary schools in Colorado
9 WITH A PRIMARY FOCUS ON TARGETING MARKETING MATERIALS TO
10 COLORADO SCHOOL-AGE CHILDREN, TEACHERS, ADMINISTRATORS,
11 EDUCATION PROFESSIONALS, AND, SUBJECT TO AVAILABLE FUNDS, OTHER
12 YOUTH-RELATED ORGANIZATIONS INCLUDING BOYS & GIRLS CLUBS AND
13 4-H EXTENSION OFFICES at no charge to the school ~~on or before June 30,~~
14 ~~2017, and annually each fiscal year thereafter~~ OR RECIPIENT;

15 (k) Provide training and support to all ~~preschool~~; elementary and
16 secondary schools and school districts in Colorado regarding school
17 safety related to the safe2tell program, including answering questions and
18 discussing reports received by the program;

19 (l) Provide educational materials to all ~~preschool~~; elementary and
20 secondary schools in Colorado aimed at preventing misuse of the
21 program;

1 (m) Provide technical assistance and support to law enforcement
2 officials and school officials when there is misuse of the program; ~~and~~

3 (o) DEVISE A PROCESS SO THAT ALL CALLS AND TEXTS ARE
4 RECEIVED INITIALLY BY A CRISIS OPERATOR AND THEN NON-CRISIS CALLS
5 AND TEXTS ARE ROUTED APPROPRIATELY;

6 (p) ALIGN THE PROCESS AND PROCEDURES FOR TIPS RECEIVED VIA
7 ALL COMMUNICATION METHODS; AND

8 (q) CONDUCT AN ANNUAL ADVERTISING CAMPAIGN REGARDING
9 AWARENESS, USE, AND MISUSE OF SAFE2TELL.

10 **SECTION 2.** In Colorado Revised Statutes, 24-31-607, **add**
11 (2)(c) as follows:

12 **24-31-607. In camera review - confidentiality of materials -**
13 **criminal penalty.** (2) (c) NOTWITHSTANDING ANY PROVISION TO THE
14 CONTRARY, UPON REQUEST BY A LAW ENFORCEMENT AGENCY, THE
15 ATTORNEY GENERAL MAY DISCLOSE TO LAW ENFORCEMENT PERSONNEL
16 ANY MATERIALS OR INFORMATION OBTAINED THROUGH THE
17 IMPLEMENTATION OR OPERATION OF THE PROGRAM IF THE ATTORNEY
18 GENERAL REASONABLY DEEMS SUCH DISCLOSURE NECESSARY FOR THE
19 PREVENTION OF IMMINENT PHYSICAL HARM OR SERIOUS BODILY INJURY TO
20 ONE OR MORE PERSONS.

Second Regular Session
Seventy-second General Assembly
STATE OF COLORADO

DRAFT
10.11.19

BILL 11

LLS NO. 20-0397.02 Michael Dohr x4347

INTERIM COMMITTEE BILL

School Safety Committee

BILL TOPIC: "Colorado Working Group On School Safety"

DEADLINES: File by: 10/10/2019

A BILL FOR AN ACT

101 CONCERNING CREATING A MULTI-AGENCY WORKING GROUP TO
102 ADDRESS SCHOOL SAFETY.

Bill Summary

(Note: This summary applies to this bill as introduced and does not reflect any amendments that may be subsequently adopted. If this bill passes third reading in the house of introduction, a bill summary that applies to the reengrossed version of this bill will be available at <http://leg.colorado.gov/>.)

School Safety Committee. The bill creates the Colorado interagency working group on school safety. The working group consists of 10 voting members. The mission of the working group is to enhance school safety through the cost-effective use of public resources. The working group shall:

- Study and implement recommendations of the state

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auditor's report regarding school safety released September 2019, which may include program reorganization;

- Identify shared metrics to examine program effectiveness;
- Facilitate interagency coordination and communication;
- Increase transparency and accessibility of state grants and resources, including by improving outreach;
- Facilitate and address data sharing when appropriate and allowable under state and federal law; and
- Address school safety program challenges in a coordinated way.

The working group may contract with a consultant to optimize the alignment and effectiveness of the school safety efforts in Colorado and identify evidence-based best practices. The general assembly may appropriate money to the working group for a consultant, and the working group can accept gifts, grants, and donations.

The bill repeals the working group on September 1, 2023.

1 *Be it enacted by the General Assembly of the State of Colorado:*

2 **SECTION 1.** In Colorado Revised Statutes, **add** article 17 to title
3 22 as follows:

4 **ARTICLE 17**

5 **Colorado Interagency Working Group on School Safety**

6 **22-17-101. Legislative declaration.** (1) THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY
7 FINDS AND DECLARES THAT:

8 (a) ENSURING THE SAFETY OF STUDENTS, TEACHERS, AND OTHER
9 EMPLOYEES WHILE AT SCHOOL IS A PARAMOUNT CONCERN FOR THE
10 CITIZENS OF COLORADO;

11 (b) IMPROVING THE EFFECTIVE ADMINISTRATION OF SCHOOL
12 SAFETY PROGRAMS AND FUNDING IS CRITICAL TO PROVIDING SAFE
13 SCHOOLS; AND

14 (c) MAINTAINING SCHOOL SAFETY THROUGH THE MOST
15 COST-EFFECTIVE USE OF LIMITED STATE RESOURCES IS IN THE INTEREST OF
16 THE PEOPLE OF THE STATE OF COLORADO.

1 (2) THEREFORE, THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY DECLARES THAT A
2 WORKING GROUP COMPRISED OF STATE AND LOCAL AGENCY OFFICIALS
3 MUST BE FORMED TO INCREASE COORDINATION OF SCHOOL SAFETY
4 PROGRAMS ACROSS STATE GOVERNMENT AND ANNUALLY REPORT TO THE
5 GOVERNOR, THE SPEAKER OF THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES, AND THE
6 PRESIDENT OF THE SENATE ON THEIR ACTIVITIES.

7 **22-17-102. Colorado interagency working group on school**
8 **safety - creation - membership - operation - immunity.** (1) (a) THERE
9 IS HEREBY CREATED IN THE DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION THE COLORADO
10 INTERAGENCY WORKING GROUP ON SCHOOL SAFETY, REFERRED TO IN THIS
11 ARTICLE 17 AS THE "WORKING GROUP". THE WORKING GROUP HAS THE
12 POWERS AND DUTIES SPECIFIED IN THIS ARTICLE 17.

13 (b) THE WORKING GROUP SHALL EXERCISE ITS POWERS AND
14 PERFORM ITS DUTIES AND FUNCTIONS AS IF THE SAME WERE TRANSFERRED
15 TO THE DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION BY A **TYPE 2** TRANSFER, AS SUCH
16 TRANSFER IS DEFINED IN THE "ADMINISTRATIVE ORGANIZATION ACT OF
17 1968", ARTICLE 1 OF TITLE 24.

18 (2) (a) THE WORKING GROUP CONSISTS OF TEN VOTING MEMBERS,
19 AS FOLLOWS:

20 (I) THE COMMISSIONER OF EDUCATION, OR HIS OR HER DESIGNEE,
21 WHO SHALL SERVE AS THE CHAIR OF THE WORKING GROUP;

22 (II) THE EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR OF THE DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC
23 SAFETY, OR HIS OR HER DESIGNEE;

24 (III) THE EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR OF THE DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC
25 HEALTH AND ENVIRONMENT, OR HIS OR HER DESIGNEE;

26 (IV) THE EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR OF THE DEPARTMENT OF HUMAN
27 SERVICES, OR HIS OR HER DESIGNEE;

1 (V) THE ATTORNEY GENERAL, OR HIS OR HER DESIGNEE, WHO
2 SHALL SERVE AS THE VICE-CHAIR OF THE WORKING GROUP;

3 (VI) THE DIRECTOR OF THE SCHOOL SAFETY RESOURCE CENTER;
4 AND

5 (VII) THE FOLLOWING MEMBERS APPOINTED BY THE GOVERNOR:

6 (A) A SCHOOL DISTRICT SUPERINTENDENT WHO SERVES AN URBAN
7 OR SUBURBAN SCHOOL DISTRICT;

8 (B) A SCHOOL DISTRICT SUPERINTENDENT WHO SERVES A RURAL
9 SCHOOL DISTRICT;

10 (C) A CHIEF OF POLICE; AND

11 (D) A COUNTY SHERIFF.

12 (3) THE MEMBERS OF THE WORKING GROUP SERVE WITHOUT
13 COMPENSATION BUT MAY BE REIMBURSED FOR ANY ACTUAL AND
14 NECESSARY TRAVEL EXPENSES INCURRED IN THE PERFORMANCE OF THEIR
15 DUTIES PURSUANT TO THIS ARTICLE 17.

16 (4) THE WORKING GROUP SHALL MEET AT LEAST ONCE PER
17 QUARTER TO REVIEW INFORMATION NECESSARY FOR MAKING
18 RECOMMENDATIONS.

19 (5) THE WORKING GROUP MAY CONTRACT WITH A CONSULTANT TO
20 OPTIMIZE THE ALIGNMENT AND EFFECTIVENESS OF THE SCHOOL SAFETY
21 EFFORTS IN COLORADO AND IDENTIFY EVIDENCE-BASED BEST PRACTICES.
22 THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY MAY APPROPRIATE MONEY TO THE WORKING
23 GROUP FOR A CONSULTANT IF REQUESTED BY THE WORKING GROUP.

24 (6) MEMBERS OF THE WORKING GROUP, EMPLOYEES, AND
25 CONSULTANTS ARE IMMUNE FROM SUIT IN ANY CIVIL ACTION BASED UPON
26 ANY OFFICIAL ACT PERFORMED IN GOOD FAITH PURSUANT TO THIS ARTICLE
27 17.

1 **22-17-103. Duties of the working group - mission.** (1) THE
2 MISSION OF THE WORKING GROUP IS TO ENHANCE SCHOOL SAFETY
3 THROUGH THE COST-EFFECTIVE USE OF PUBLIC RESOURCES. THE WORK OF
4 THE WORKING GROUP WILL FOCUS ON EVIDENCE-BASED BEST PRACTICES.

5 (2) THE WORKING GROUP SHALL:

6 (a) STUDY AND IMPLEMENT RECOMMENDATIONS OF THE STATE
7 AUDITOR'S REPORT REGARDING SCHOOL SAFETY RELEASED SEPTEMBER
8 2019;

9 (b) CONSIDER PROGRAM REORGANIZATION AND RECOMMEND
10 REORGANIZATION IF NECESSARY;

11 (c) IDENTIFY SHARED METRICS TO EXAMINE PROGRAM
12 EFFECTIVENESS;

13 (d) FACILITATE INTERAGENCY COORDINATION AND
14 COMMUNICATION;

15 (e) INCREASE TRANSPARENCY AND ACCESSIBILITY OF STATE
16 GRANTS AND RESOURCES, PARTICULARLY FOR SCHOOL DISTRICTS WITHOUT
17 A GRANT WRITER, WHICH INCLUDES IMPROVING OUTREACH AND MAY
18 INCLUDE DEVELOPING COMMON GRANT APPLICATIONS;

19 (f) FACILITATE AND ADDRESS DATA SHARING WHEN APPROPRIATE
20 AND ALLOWABLE UNDER STATE AND FEDERAL LAW; AND

21 (g) ADDRESS SCHOOL SAFETY PROGRAM CHALLENGES IN A
22 COORDINATED WAY.

23 (3) THE WORKING GROUP MAY USE AVAILABLE RESOURCES,
24 MODALITIES, AND NONMEMBERS FROM INTERESTED MEMBERS OF THE
25 COMMUNITY TO FOCUS ON SPECIFIC SUBJECT MATTERS.

26 (4) THE SCHOOL SAFETY RESOURCE CENTER SERVES AS THE
27 CLEARINGHOUSE FOR ALL MATERIALS PRODUCED BY THE WORKING GROUP.

1 (5) THE DIVISION OF CRIMINAL JUSTICE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF
2 PUBLIC SAFETY, IN CONSULTATION WITH THE DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION,
3 SHALL PROVIDE RESOURCES FOR DATA COLLECTION, RESEARCH, ANALYSIS,
4 AND PUBLICATION OF THE WORKING GROUP'S FINDINGS AND REPORTS.

5 **22-17-104. Colorado working group on school safety cash fund**

6 **- created - gifts, grants, and donations.** (1) THE DEPARTMENT OF
7 EDUCATION AND THE WORKING GROUP ARE AUTHORIZED TO ACCEPT GIFTS,
8 GRANTS, OR DONATIONS, INCLUDING IN-KIND DONATIONS FROM PRIVATE
9 OR PUBLIC SOURCES, FOR THE PURPOSES OF THIS ARTICLE 17. ALL PRIVATE
10 AND PUBLIC MONEY RECEIVED THROUGH GIFTS, GRANTS, OR DONATIONS
11 BY THE DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION OR BY THE WORKING GROUP MUST BE
12 TRANSMITTED TO THE STATE TREASURER, WHO SHALL CREDIT THE SAME
13 TO THE COLORADO WORKING GROUP ON SCHOOL SAFETY CASH FUND,
14 WHICH FUND IS CREATED IN THE STATE TREASURY AND REFERRED TO IN
15 THIS ARTICLE 17 AS THE "CASH FUND". THE STATE TREASURER SHALL
16 INVEST ANY MONEY IN THE CASH FUND NOT EXPENDED FOR THE PURPOSES
17 OF THIS ARTICLE 17 AS PROVIDED IN SECTION 24-36-113. ALL INTEREST
18 AND INCOME DERIVED FROM THE INVESTMENT AND DEPOSIT OF MONEY IN
19 THE CASH FUND MUST BE CREDITED TO THE CASH FUND. ANY UNEXPENDED
20 AND UNENCUMBERED MONEY REMAINING IN THE CASH FUND AT THE END
21 OF ANY FISCAL YEAR REMAINS IN THE CASH FUND AND SHALL NOT BE
22 CREDITED OR TRANSFERRED TO THE GENERAL FUND OR ANY OTHER FUND.

23 (2) THE DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION IS NOT REQUIRED TO SOLICIT
24 GIFTS, GRANTS, OR DONATIONS FROM ANY SOURCE FOR THE PURPOSES OF
25 THIS ARTICLE 17.

26 **22-17-105. Repeal of article.** THIS ARTICLE 17 IS REPEALED,
27 EFFECTIVE SEPTEMBER 1, 2023. PRIOR TO SUCH REPEAL, THE DEPARTMENT

1 OF REGULATORY AGENCIES SHALL REVIEW THE WORKING GROUP AS
2 DESCRIBED IN SECTION 2-3-1203.

3 **SECTION 2.** In Colorado Revised Statutes, 2-3-1203, **add**
4 (14)(a)(XII) as follows:

5 **2-3-1203. Sunset review of advisory committees - legislative**
6 **declaration - definition - repeal.** (14) (a) The following statutory
7 authorizations for the designated advisory committees are scheduled for
8 repeal on September 1, 2023:

9 (XII) THE COLORADO INTERAGENCY WORKING GROUP ON SCHOOL
10 SAFETY CREATED IN SECTION 22-17-102.

Second Regular Session
Seventy-second General Assembly
STATE OF COLORADO

DRAFT
10.9.19

BILL 12

LLS NO. R20-0398.01 Erin Enders x3205

INTERIM COMMITTEE Resolution

School Safety Committee

BILL TOPIC: "Support I Love U Guys Foundation"

INTERIM COMMITTEE JOINT RESOLUTION

101 **CONCERNING THE SUPPORT OF THE "I LOVE U GUYS" FOUNDATION.**

1 WHEREAS, The "I Love U Guys" foundation was created in 2006
2 by Ellen and John-Michael Keyes following the death of their daughter,
3 Emily Keyes, during a school shooting at Platte Canyon High School in
4 Bailey, Colorado; and

5 WHEREAS, During the time Emily Keyes was held hostage, she
6 sent her parents a text message that said "I love u guys"; and

7 WHEREAS, In honor of Emily Keyes' kindness, dignity, and
8 grace, her parents established the "I Love U Guys" foundation to advance
9 student and school safety; and

10 WHEREAS, In 2009 the foundation began developing programs
11 and initiatives to increase school safety, as well as the supporting

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Dashes through the words indicate deletions from existing statute.*

1 materials necessary to advance those programs, including standard
2 response protocols, training, and informational presentations; and

3 WHEREAS, The mission of the foundation and its school safety
4 programs is to protect the joy of youth by focusing on kindness,
5 community, and responsibility, both at the individual and community
6 levels; and

7 WHEREAS, To that end, in collaboration with experts in the fields
8 of education, law enforcement, emergency response, and psychology, the
9 foundation has developed research and evidence-based real-world
10 solutions that can be brought to the classroom to facilitate school and
11 community safety and promote family reunification following a crisis;
12 and

13 WHEREAS, The foundation's programs have been implemented
14 by over 25,000 schools, agencies, and organizations across the United
15 States and Canada, and the foundation hosts two yearly national school
16 safety symposiums that focus on proactive, considered, and effective
17 methods of keeping schools safe; now, therefore,

18 *Be It Resolved by the Senate of the Seventy-second General*
19 *Assembly of the State of Colorado, the House of Representatives*
20 *concurring herein:*

21 That we, the members of the Colorado General Assembly, support
22 the mission of the "I Love U Guys" foundation and the invaluable
23 programs the foundation works to implement to promote the advancement
24 of school safety and to preserve the joy of youth.